

ECONOMIC CONDITIONS IN NEW HAMPSHIRE



A REPORT BY THE NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT
SECURITY PREPARED IN COORDINATION WITH THE UNITED STATES
BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

August

Wesley S. Noyes, Jr., Editor
Supervisor, Economic Analysis and Reports

8-84

SUMMARY: Total unemployment in New Hampshire decreased by 7,890 from mid-July to mid-August. The latest total of 16,160 represents only 3.0 percent of the civilian labor force of 536,440. The unemployment rate was 4.5 percent in July and 4.2 percent a year ago. Nationally the rates were 7.3 percent in August, 7.5 percent in July and 9.2 percent a year ago. The decreased unemployment rate in part is attributable to claimants returning to work after the July vacation shutdown period. Construction activities in August continued at a brisk pace as 1,100 workers were hired to stay abreast of the demand for new buildings, housing, and heavy construction projects. Trade and services increased as some new establishments opened as the State in general continues to enjoy a very healthy economy.

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment increased 5,300 from July as manufacturing was up 3,350 and nonmanufacturing 1,950. Within the manufacturing division, electrical products recorded the greatest gain with 700 more workers while construction led in nonmanufacturing with an 1,100 increase. Trade was up by 600 while services increased 350.

Year ago comparisons show an increase of 18,600 workers with manufacturing up 8,150 and nonmanufacturing 10,450. Electrical products led the manufacturing sector with an over the year gain of 3,850 while services led in nonmanufacturing with an increase of 6,700 which was followed by trade with 4,700. It is important to note that overall construction is down 4,200 workers from a year ago due to the Seabrook situation.

Manchester Economic Conditions: Total unemployment decreased by 1,370 and the jobless count of 2,470 represented 2.7 percent of the civilian labor force. A year ago the rate was 4.3 percent. Nonagricultural employment increased by 950 from July, and was up 4,900 from a year ago. Manufacturing increased by 750 from last year, while nonmanufacturing is up 4,150.

Nashua Economic Changes: Total unemployment decreased by 780 and the jobless count of 1,900 represented only 2.0 percent of the civilian labor force. A year ago the rate was 3.7 percent. Nonagricultural employment increased by 450 from July, and was up 4,450 from a year ago. Manufacturing increased by 2,650 from last year, while nonmanufacturing is up 1,800.

Labor Surplus Area: Coos County has been designated a Labor Surplus Area and as such employers in this county are eligible for federal procurement preference. In order to be so designated, labor market areas must have recorded an average jobless rate of at least 10 percent during the reference period of January 1982 through December 1983. This preferential designation for federal contracts lasts through September 30, 1985.

New Hampshire Labor Force, Total Employment and Unemployment and Nonagricultural
Wage and Salary Employment as of the Middle of the Month

Industry	State						Manchester Labor Market Area						Nashua Labor Market Area					
	Number of Workers			Numerical Change			Number of Workers			Numerical Change			Number of Workers			Numerical Change		
	August 1984	July 1984	August 1983	From Month	Previous Year		August 1984	July 1984	August 1983	From Month	Previous Year		August 1984	July 1984	August 1983	From Month	Previous Year	
1. Civilian labor force*	536,440	539,820	519,680	-3,380	16,760		92,270	92,760	88,650	-490	3,620		94,120	94,740	89,170	-620	4,950	
2. Unemployment	16,160	24,050	21,620	-7,890	-5,460		2,470	3,840	3,800	-1,370	-1,330		1,900	2,680	3,280	-780	-1,380	
Percent of labor force	3.0	4.5	4.2	xxx	xxx		2.7	4.1	4.3	xxx	xxx		2.0	2.8	3.7	xxx	xxx	
3. Employment total	520,280	515,770	498,060	4,510	22,220		89,800	88,920	83,550	880	6,250		92,220	92,060	85,570	160	6,650	
4. Persons involved in labor disputes	0	0	2,600	0	-2,600		0	0	1,300	0	-1,300		0	0	320	0	-320	
Nonagri. wage & salary**	443,650	438,350	425,050	5,300	18,600		83,500	82,550	78,600	950	4,900		77,150	76,700	72,700	450	4,450	
Manufacturing	122,950	119,600	114,800	3,350	8,150		17,500	17,000	16,750	500	750		36,850	36,650	34,200	200	2,650	
Durable goods	81,100	79,200	73,050	1,900	8,050		10,350	9,950	9,300	400	1,050		30,350	30,100	27,350	250	3,000	
Lumber & wood prods.	5,200	5,000	4,950	200	250													
Furniture & fixtures	1,450	1,400	1,450	50	0													
Stone & clay prods.	2,950	2,850	2,550	100	400													
Primary metal prods.	3,950	3,900	*3,550	50	400													
Fabricated metal prods.	7,150	6,750	6,950	400	200													
Machinery (exc. elec.)	23,850	23,600	21,550	250	2,300		6,600	6,250	5,950	350			23,350	23,200	20,200	150	3,150	
Electrical prods.	26,100	25,400	22,250	700	3,850													
Miscellaneous prods.	1,950	1,950	1,850	0	100													
Other durables	8,500	8,350	7,950	150	550		3,750	3,700	3,350	50	400		7,000	6,900	7,150	100	-150	
Non-durable goods	41,850	40,400	41,750	1,450	100		7,150	7,050	7,450	100	-300		6,500	6,550	6,850	-50	-350	
Food & kindred prods.	2,950	2,800	2,900	150	50													
Textile mill prods.	4,300	4,150	4,150	150	150		1,700	1,850	1,950	-150	-250							
Apparel	2,700	2,550	2,950	150	-250													
Paper & allied prods.	5,700	5,550	5,500	150	200													
Print., pub. & allied	7,150	7,150	6,900	0	250													
Leather & lea. prods.	8,400	7,750	9,200	650	-800													
Other nondurables	10,650	10,450	10,150	200	500		5,450	5,200	5,500	250	-50							
Nonmanufacturing	320,700	318,750	310,250	1,950	10,450		66,000	65,550	61,850	450	4,150		40,300	40,050	38,500	250	1,800	
Construction (inc. min.)	22,950	21,850	27,150	1,100	-4,200		4,500	4,400	3,800	100	700		3,450	3,350	3,400	100	50	
Trans., comm. & util.	15,550	15,350	*13,150	200	2,400		5,250	5,200	*3,850	50	1,400		1,950	1,900	*1,550	50	400	
Trade	103,050	102,450	98,350	600	4,700		22,200	22,050	20,950	150	1,250		14,600	14,600	14,100	0	500	
Fin., ins. & real estate	23,500	23,250	22,000	250	1,500		6,550	6,550	6,350	0	200		2,550	2,550	2,300	0	250	
Service industry & other	99,700	99,350	93,000	350	6,700		19,150	19,050	18,750	100	400		12,500	12,800	12,200	100	750	
Government	55,950	56,500	56,600	-550	-650		8,350	8,300	8,150	50	200		4,850	4,850	4,950	0	-100	
Federal	12,000	12,000	11,750	0	250		2,100	2,100	2,050	0	50		700	700	750	0	-50	
State	13,800	13,800	14,350	0	-550		850	850	850	0	0		250	250	200	0	50	
Local	30,150	30,700	30,500	-550	-350		5,400	5,350	5,250	50	150		3,900	3,900	4,000	0	-100	

* By place of residence

** By place of establishment
Benchmark March 1983

Labor Disputes:

* Ind.33- 300 workers on strike not included
Ind.48- 2,300
Ind.48- 1,300 (Manchester)
Ind.48- 320 (Nashua)

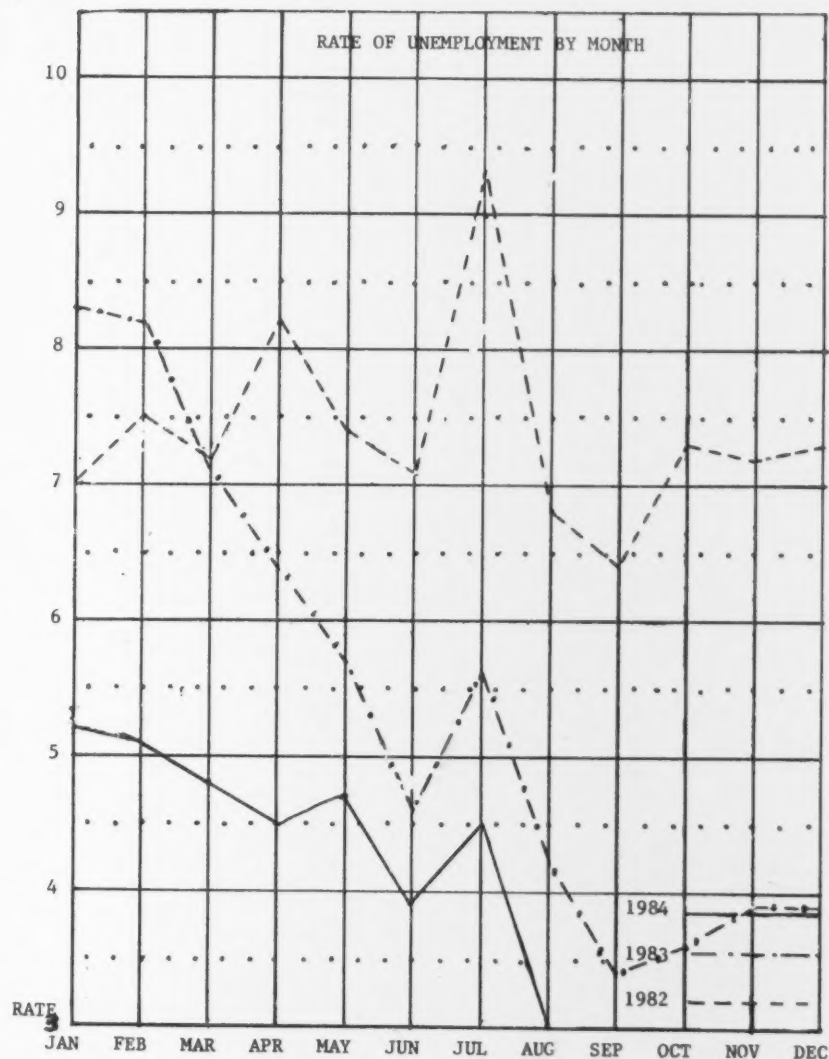
Total Unemployment and Labor Force by Labor Market Area (LMA) and County

	Unemployment*								Civilian Labor Force					
Area	August 1984		July 1984		August 1983		Numerical Change From Previous		Aug. 84	July 84	Aug. 83	Numerical Change From Previous		
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Month	Year				Month	Year	
United States**	8,382	7.3	8,714	7.5	10,411	9.2	-332	-2,029	115,076	116,198	113,578	-1,122	1,498	
New Hampshire	16,160	3.0	24,050	4.5	21,620	4.2	-7,890	-5,460	536,440	539,820	519,680	-3,380	16,760	
Labor Market Area														
Berlin	650	3.0	1,020	4.6	1,090	5.1	-370	-440	21,710	21,970	21,210	-260	500	
Claremont	710	1.8	1,030	2.5	1,520	3.9	-320	-810	39,900	40,420	38,600	-520	1,300	
Concord	1,030	2.2	1,720	3.6	1,520	3.4	-690	-490	47,520	47,640	45,100	-120	2,420	
Dover	2,280	4.9	4,820	10.1	2,520	5.6	-2,540	-240	46,410	47,700	44,840	-1,290	1,570	
Keene	790	1.9	1,400	3.4	1,690	4.3	-610	-900	40,780	41,180	39,290	-400	1,490	
Laconia	1,010	2.0	1,460	2.8	1,530	3.1	-450	-520	51,260	51,400	49,610	-140	1,650	
Littleton	330	2.1	650	3.9	710	4.4	-320	-380	16,550	16,520	16,030	30	520	
Manchester	2,470	2.7	3,840	4.1	3,800	4.3	-1,370	-1,330	92,270	92,760	88,650	-490	3,620	
Nashua	1,900	2.0	2,680	2.8	3,280	3.7	-780	-1,380	94,120	94,740	89,170	-620	4,950	
Portsmouth	2,950	5.1	3,820	6.5	2,100	3.5	-870	850	58,140	58,360	60,090	-220	-1,950	
N.H. - Lawrence- Haverhill SMSA***	2,040	7.3	1,610	5.9	1,860	6.9	430	180	27,780	27,130	27,090	650	690	
County														
Belknap	540	2.1	880	3.4	900	3.6	-340	-360	25,950	26,120	25,190	-170	760	
Carroll	310	2.0	440	2.8	440	2.9	-130	-130	15,560	15,560	15,020	0	540	
Cheshire	740	2.0	1,350	3.7	1,590	4.5	-610	-850	36,550	36,980	35,260	-430	1,290	
Coos	600	3.1	1,030	5.3	1,070	5.7	-430	-470	19,170	19,440	18,770	-270	400	
Grafton	720	1.9	1,040	2.7	1,150	3.1	-320	-430	38,560	38,650	37,040	-90	1,520	
Hillsborough	3,920	2.4	5,730	3.4	6,150	3.9	-1,810	-2,230	166,680	167,630	158,630	-950	8,050	
Merrimack	1,150	2.1	1,870	3.4	1,790	3.4	-720	-640	55,340	55,530	52,820	-190	2,520	
Rockingham	5,750	4.9	6,750	5.8	5,200	4.5	-1,000	550	116,400	116,180	116,540	220	-140	
Strafford	2,030	4.9	4,300	10.0	2,270	5.6	-2,270	-240	41,670	42,820	40,280	-1,150	1,390	
Sullivan	400	1.9	660	3.2	1,060	5.3	-260	-660	20,560	20,910	20,130	-350	430	

* Based on the Bureau of Labor Statistics "43 Step Method" Handbook adjusted to the Current Population Survey estimates.

** In thousands, not seasonally adjusted.

*** New Hampshire portion of the Lawrence-Haverhill, Massachusetts Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area which includes Salem and six small towns.



AREA DEFINITIONS

Manchester Labor Market Area includes the city of Manchester and towns of Auburn, Bedford, Candia, Chester, Derry, Goffstown, Hooksett, Londonderry, New Boston, Raymond and Weare.

Nashua Labor Market Area is located in the southern section of Hillsborough County and includes the City of Nashua and the towns of Amherst, Brookline, Greenville, Hollis, Litchfield, Lyndeboro, Mason, Merrimack, Milford, Mont Vernon, New Ipswich, Pelham, Temple and Wilton.

U. S. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

Item	1984	1983	1982	1981
<u>Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers</u>				
Current month - August	310.3			
Percent change from year ago	3.6			
Year average		297.4	288.6	272.3
Percent increase each year		3.0	6.0	10.2
<u>All Urban Consumers</u>				
Current month - August	313.0			
Percent change from year ago	4.2			
Year average		298.4	289.1	272.4
Percent increase each year		3.2	6.1	10.4

Average Weekly Wages by County for the Year 1983
and Percent Changes from 1982

County	Average Weekly Wages			Percent Changes from 1982		
	Total	Mfg.	Nonmfg.	Total	Mfg.	Nonmfg.
New Hampshire	\$ 296.34	\$ 358.37	\$ 266.45	6.1	7.2	5.9
Belknap	247.81	272.89	237.90	5.4	2.9	6.7
Carroll	188.45	243.15	179.20	6.2	2.5	7.4
Cheshire	276.18	335.95	242.05	3.3	3.7	3.9
Coos	274.16	363.10	212.20	5.7	5.8	-0.4
Grafton	278.26	287.15	275.52	5.2	6.1	4.9
Hillsborough	316.35	390.61	268.40	7.5	8.4	8.2
Merrimack	279.78	314.37	263.74	5.9	5.7	5.9
Rockingham	309.19	384.64	286.14	5.8	8.2	5.8
Strafford	269.26	323.02	224.82	6.4	9.2	4.8
Sullivan	267.04	329.27	213.23	0	-1.5	3.4
Statewide*	364.38	445.95	362.98	3.9	0.2	4.0

* Establishments not classified by any specific location.

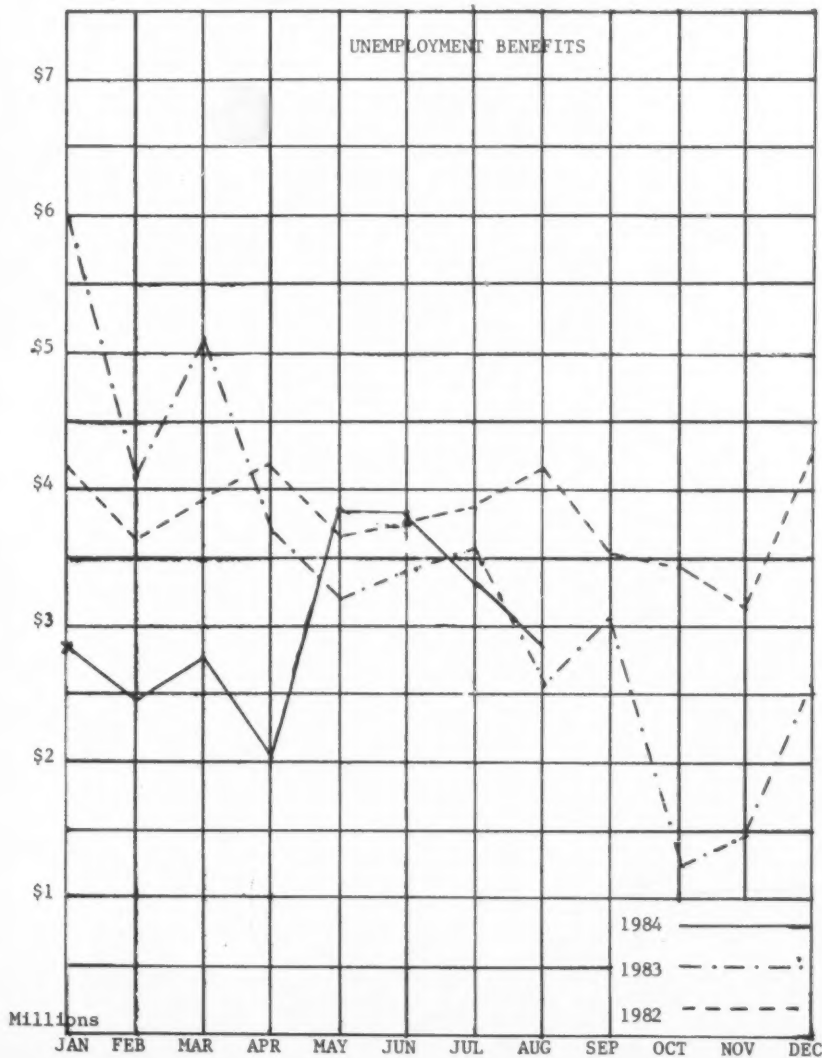
Based on quarterly reports submitted by 23,147 private industry employers under the N.H. Unemployment Compensation Law.

Total wages amounted to \$5,373,591,268 for all industries of which manufacturing employers paid \$2,113,195,598 during 1983.

Weekly Claims Filed During August 1984
Classified by Local Office

Area	Unemployment Compensation		U.C. State Workers (Only)		UC Local Government		Servicemen UCX (Only)		U.C. Federal Employees No UI	
	Init.	Cont.	Int.	Cont.	Init.	Cont.	Int.	Cont.	Init.	Cont.
All Offices	2,622	20,723	12	39	9	17	35	77	15	79
Berlin	172	960	2	0	0	0	0	3	0	0
Claremont	124	769	1	1	2	3	3	8	0	3
Concord	199	1,230	2	6	0	0	1	4	0	6
Dover	422	4,772	1	18	2	1	6	15	0	16
Keene	154	836	1	4	0	11	2	13	1	1
Laconia	258	768	2	6	1	2	5	4	0	2
Littleton	77	247	0	0	3	0	0	0	2	0
Manchester	553	2,740	2	1	1	0	9	9	6	43
Nashua	260	1,054	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	4
Portsmouth	330	6,597	1	2	0	0	6	11	1	0
Salem	73	750	0	0	2	0	1	4	0	0
Not included above: Liable Interstate	290	4,198	0	1	1	0	0	5	4	4

The average payment for a week of total unemployment was \$116.79



Unemployment Compensation
Fund Balance End Of Month

\$ 88,983,955.14

Net contributions received
during month:

\$ 3,664,146.69

Net benefits paid during
month:

\$ 2 880,361.70

Interest Received:

0

AVERAGE EARNINGS AND HOURS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

New Hampshire

Industry	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings			Sample Percent of Production Workers:
	August 1984	July 1984	August 1983	Aug. 1984	July 1984	Aug. 1983	August 1984	July 1984	August 1983	
All manufacturing	\$ 317.14	\$ 319.90	\$ 300.17	40.4	40.7	40.4	\$7.85	\$7.86	\$7.43	53
Durable goods	332.93	330.48	309.50	40.9	40.6	40.3	8.14	8.14	7.68	Total Production Workers:
Lumber & wood prods.	264.59	238.13	229.91	41.8	38.1	39.3	6.33	6.25	5.85	87,107
Furniture & fixtures	281.47	301.43	270.75	38.4	39.3	39.7	7.33	7.67	6.82	Firms Reporting:
Stone & clay prods.	311.25	315.33	321.47	41.5	41.6	43.5	7.50	7.58	7.39	
Primary metal prods.	324.72	354.84	349.33	41.0	43.7	44.5	7.92	8.12	7.85	334
Fab. metal prods.	307.09	302.73	292.90	41.0	41.3	40.4	7.49	7.33	7.25	
Mach. (exc. elec.)	378.85	366.34	345.70	43.1	42.4	41.6	8.79	8.64	8.31	7.90
Electrical prods.	337.39	336.73	304.94	39.6	39.2	38.6	8.52	8.59	5.94	
Miscellaneous prods.	228.66	233.57	241.76	40.4	42.7	40.7	5.66	5.47	5.94	8.12
Other durables	339.83	342.54	320.74	39.7	39.6	39.5	8.56	8.65	8.12	
Nondurable goods	\$ 291.46	\$ 302.17	\$ 285.53	39.6	41.0	40.5	\$7.36	7.37	\$7.05	9.39
Food & kindred prods.	403.52	384.61	400.95	41.6	41.4	42.7	9.70	9.29	9.39	
Textile mill prods.	269.07	273.20	260.53	40.1	40.0	40.9	6.71	6.83	6.37	5.20
Apparel	207.90	194.38	194.48	37.8	36.4	37.4	5.50	5.34	5.20	
Paper & allied prods.	429.44	465.28	409.22	47.4	50.3	47.2	9.06	9.25	8.67	7.34
Print., pub. & allied	286.65	288.17	294.33	39.0	39.1	40.1	7.35	7.37	7.34	
Leather & lea. prods.	177.98	209.97	192.15	33.9	39.1	36.6	5.25	5.37	5.25	5.03
Footwear	169.51	202.79	181.08	33.5	39.3	36.0	5.06	5.16	5.03	
Other nondurables	326.41	328.41	320.32	40.7	41.0	41.6	8.02	8.01	7.70	

Manchester Labor Market Area

Industry	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings			Sample Percent of Production Workers:
	August 1984	July 1984	August 1983	Aug. 1984	July 1984	Aug. 1983	August 1984	July 1984	August 1983	
All manufacturing	\$ 298.54	\$ 299.07	\$ 278.24	39.7	39.3	39.3	\$7.52	\$7.61	\$7.08	56
Durable goods	316.76	314.81	295.77	40.3	39.4	39.7	7.86	7.99	7.45	Total Production Workers:
Mach. & elec. prods.	324.80	320.23	305.37	40.6	39.1	40.5	8.00	8.19	7.54	12,872
Other durables	302.88	306.80	277.71	39.8	40.0	38.2	7.61	7.67	7.27	Firms Reporting:
Nondurable goods	275.41	278.32	259.74	38.9	39.2	39.0	7.08	7.10	6.66	
Textiles & apparel	261.51	253.76	246.93	38.8	39.1	39.7	6.74	6.49	6.22	49
Other nondurables	279.69	286.94	264.62	38.9	39.2	38.8	7.19	7.32	6.82	

Nashua Labor Market Area

Industry	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings			Sample Percent of Production Workers:
	August 1984	July 1984	August 1983	Aug. 1984	July 1984	Aug. 1983	August 1984	July 1984	August 1983	
All manufacturing	\$ 384.05	\$ 376.67	\$ 354.44	40.9	40.2	40.6	\$9.39	\$9.37	\$8.73	66
Durable goods	386.75	381.11	356.81	41.1	40.5	40.5	9.41	9.41	8.81	Total Production Workers:
Mach. & elec. prods.	414.53	406.02	388.97	40.6	40.2	40.1	10.21	10.10	9.70	20,863
Other durables	315.46	314.77	291.99	42.4	41.2	41.3	7.44	7.64	7.07	Firms Reporting:
Nondurable goods	370.27	358.94	345.14	39.9	39.1	40.7	9.28	9.18	8.48	

Number of Active Applicants and Female Applicants by Major Occupational Category
Period Ending August 31, 1984

	NEW HAMPSHIRE		MANCHESTER		NASHUA	
	Total	Female	Total	Female	Total	Female
TOTAL	11,188	4,524	1,658	720	789	314
Prof., Tech. (00-16)	1,215	447	84	22	115	16
Managerial (18,19)	650	222	115	61	76	44
Clerical (20-24)	1,966	1,573	244	204	150	101
Sales (25-29)	548	268	119	58	39	21
Services (3)	1,467	796	242	133	61	24
Farm (4)	108	13	8	1	7	3
Processing (5)	194	62	34	12	25	6
Machine Trade (6)	996	291	107	50	64	14
Benchwork (7)	881	570	154	111	114	65
Structural (8)	2,175	68	326	8	80	4
Miscellaneous (9)	887	168	192	42	58	16
Unclassified	101	46	33	18	0	0

Employment Service Activity

ITEM	August 1984	July 1984	October 1, 1983 to August 31, 1984
Total applicants for employment	3,586	3,275	53,073
Total nonagricultural job openings received	3,937	2,631	27,156
Job openings unfilled end of month	3,923	3,523	xxx
Placements - nonagricultural & agricultural	1,581	1,039	11,553

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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
32 SOUTH MAIN STREET
CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03301

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE \$300



POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY MAIL

Third Class Mail

LAB-449